

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the final Office Action dated October 3, 2006 and the references cited therein. In response thereto, claims 1-22 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; and new claims 23-26 are added and pending in the present application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 18 is now replaced by new claims 23-26 which comply with the formality requirement.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Henson (Patent Number 6,167,383). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

New claim 23 recites a method in a computerized system for building a custom specification and a quote for a piece of equipment, comprising providing at least one pre-engineered specification, wherein the pre-engineered specification is a specification for one or more designs of a component for which existing designs have been completed; displaying the at least one pre-engineered specification for the equipment; electronically soliciting from a user a selection of one of the at least one pre-engineered specification; electronically soliciting from the user a manufacturer of one component of the equipment; displaying options and prices for the component and allowing the user to select at least one option for the component, wherein the displaying options and prices includes updating the displayed options and prices after an interrelated option has been selected; generating a report showing the options selected for the component and a subtotal cost for the component; and generating a report showing the components selected and the total cost of the equipment. Support can be found at least on page 4, lines 10-18 and page 10, lines 9-11.

Henson discloses a web-based online store includes a configurator, a cart, a checkout, and a database, further in which a user interface of the online store enables a custom configuration of a computer system according to an identification of a user belonging to a prescribed customer set. More particularly, Henson discloses that the configurator is provided for configuring a

computer system with options selected according to a prescribed user input, the options and a respective pricing for each option being presented on a configurator web page in accordance with the identification of the user belonging to a prescribed customer set.

However, Henson, among the other features, fails to disclose or teach providing at least one pre-engineered specification, wherein the pre-engineered specification is a specification for one or more designs of a component for which existing designs have been completed, electronically soliciting from the user a manufacturer of one component of the equipment, and displaying options and prices for the component and allowing the user to select at least one option for the component, wherein the displaying options and prices includes updating the displayed options and prices after an interrelated option has been selected, as recited in claim 23. Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention solves the problems of a user attempting to generate specifications and quotes for complicated equipment, such as a truck, with pre-engineered specification, wherein the pre-engineered specification is a specification for one or more designs of a component for which existing designs have been completed and allowing the user to select a manufacturer of the component of the equipment. Nowhere in Henson does it disclose or teach such features. In addition, Henson does not appreciate nor does it address the complication involving in sophisticated equipment purchasing or leasing business where interaction between a salesperson and an end customer/lessee involves many terms, as opposed to simply clicking an option via a web-based online store as disclosed in Henson. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 23 and its dependent claims patentably distinguish over Henson.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application and a favorable response are respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues, please contact the undersigned at 612-752-7367.

Respectfully submitted,

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